[NUMB. 793.]

THE South-Carolina Gazette.

From MONDAY *July* 17th, to MONDAY *July* 24th, 1749.

Mr. Timothy,

If you will give Doctor Milward's *Letter to the Preſident of the Royal Society, a Place in your Gazette, as it will be of Uſe to the People of this Province, it will be a Pleaſure to*

Yours, &c.

A Letter from Edward Milward, *M.D. to* Martin Folkes, *Eſq; Preſident of the* ROYAL SOCIETY, *concerning an* Antidote *to the* Indian Poiſon *in the* Weſt-Indies.

SIR,

AS the ROYAL SOCIETY, over which you ſo worthily preſide, was inſtituted for the Advancement and Propagation of Natural Knowledge, and as I am convinced, that every the leaſt Step towards ſuch a Deſign cannot but be agreeable; I ſhall do myſelf the Pleaſure of communicating to you, an extraordinary ſpecific Antidote againſt the *Indian* or *Negro* Poiſon; which, I doubt not, will be the more acceptable, as this poiſon hath hitherto been eſteem'd the moſt deſtructive of any.

The Knowledge of this Remedy was firſt purchaſed from a famous *Negro* Poiſoner, at a great Expence, by one who ſtyles himſelf, *Iſaiah Burgeſs, Doctor of Phyſick*; and the Secret devolv'd to myſelf, by means of a Manuſcript of the Doctor's, which, amongſt others, I have procur'd, for my *Hiſtory of the Phyſical and Chirurgical Writers of this Kingdom*. The Author intended this little Tract, which contains *Obſervations on the moſt conſiderable Diſtempers in* America, ſhould be made public; he wrote it, at the Requeſt of his Friends, about . . . . . when an Expedition was deſign'd into *America*: and particularly declares, that he purpos'd the Divulgation of this ſpecific Antidote, *that ſuch as ſhould go to the* Weſt-Indies, *amongſt the* Spaniards, *might meet with a Remedy in caſe of Neceſſity*. What prevented the Doctor from executing this his laudable Deſign, I know not; but as it was plainly his Intention it ſhould be made public, and as the Knowledge of ſuch a Remedy may be of the greateſt Benefit to Mankind I ſhall lay it before you, without any farther Preamble; that it may, by means of your *Tranſactions*, be communicated to the World, provided you ſhall judge it worthy of ſo diſtinguiſhing an Honour.

" The *Negroes*, ſays he, uſe a Poiſon of a ſtrange and extraordi-
" nary Nature. The Doſe is very ſmall, and it hath no ill Taſte,
" ſo that, mixt with Meat or Drink, it is not perceivable It
" cauſeth divers Symptoms, and the Effect is various, according
" as the Doſe is large or ſmall. It kills ſometimes in a very few
" Hours, ſometimes in ſome Months, and at others in ſome Years.
" The Symptoms are according to the Quantity given: If great, it
" cauſeth Evacuations upwards and downwards; of Excrements
" firſt, then of Humours, * and laſtly of Blood, with Fainting-Fits,
" and Sweatings. Death follows in ſix or ſeven Hours. The
" *Negroes* turn white.

" If the Doſe is but ſmall, the Sick looſeth his Appetite, feels
" Pains in his Head, Arms and Limbs, a Wearineſs all over, Sore-
" neſs in his Breaſt, and Difficulty of Breathing, (ſo that one ap-
" pears as being in a Conſumption) and at laſt dies languiſhing.

" All Remedies yet publickly known, are of no Force nor Vir-
" tue againſt this Poiſon; and the Patient certainly dies. Nay, I
" queſtion whether the beſt Cordial Remedies can put the leaſt
" Stop to the Efficacy of its Venom, or retard Death, and put it
" off, longer than the Intention of the cunning Poiſoner had fixed
" it, in proportioning the Doſe.

" I know that the *Spaniards* have Knowledge of this very Poi-
" ſon, and am ſatisfied that I have ſeen ſeveral *Buccaneers* die of it,
" given them by *Spaniſh* Women. I am alſo perſuaded, that it is
" the ſame poiſon uſed in *Spain* and *Italy*.

" This Poiſon hath but one ſpecific Antidote yet known; the
" Knowledge of which coſt me very dear: And it was with much
" Difficulty I could perſuade a famous *Negro* Poiſoner to part with
" his Secret.

" The antidote is, the Root of the *Senſible Weed*, as it is com-
" monly called, or *Herba Senſitiva*. ‖ It grows like a Shrub, has
" no Prickles, bloſſoms yellow, and bears little Cods, full of ſmall
" black pretty Seeds, of which the Women make Necklaces and
" Bracelets Take none of the Root but what is in the Ground;
" waſh it well, and ſplit it in two. Take a good Handful of
" theſe Roots ſo ſplit, and ſteep them in three Quarts of good clear
" Water in an earthen glazed Pot, having a Cover. Uſe but a
" moderate Fire, that it may boil but very gently. The Decoctio-
" on has no ill Taſte, and you may either give it ſo, or add Sugar,
" as you ſhall think beſt. Give to the Patient a good Glaſs of this
" Decoction, as warm as he can drink it; an Hour after give a-
" nother, and ſo for ſome time, as you ſhall think it neceſſary to
" make a perfect Cure. There is no Danger of giving too much;
" it can do no Harm at all. Several People have taken this De-
" coction, though they have not been poiſoned, thinking it would
" do them good in other Diſtempers; ſo that one who any way
" ſuſpects he has had ſome of that Poiſon given him, may drink it
" very ſafely, and in what Quantity he pleaſes. The reſt of the
" Plant is to be rejected as bad and noxious." †

The Doctor enforces his Obſervations by remarking, that he had been a Practitioner in thoſe Parts for above Five and twenty Years. Many *Negroes*, he ſays, were wonderfully preſerved and cured by taking of this Antidote, though, for Brevity's ſake, he gives but one Inſtance; which is, " of a ſtrong *Negro* Man, about thirty
" Years of Age, and in perfect Health, who being one Night at a
" Plantation four Miles diſtant from that where he lived, was in-
" vited to drink a Dram of Rum, by another *Negro*, who mixt
" Poiſon with it. The Fellow drank it up, perceiving nothing to
" be in it; but as he was taking Leave, on the other's bidding him
" Farewel, and telling him he ſhould never ſee him again, he ſuſ-
" pected he was poiſon'd; and putting his Finger in his Mouth,
" vomited up great part of the Poiſon, though there remain'd e-
" nough of it to cauſe continual Evacuations in him upwards and
" downwards; of Excrements firſt, then of Humours, and laſtly of
" Blood. As he was coming home, he fainted away ſeveral times,
" and calling at length to ſome Neighbour's *Negro* Houſes, was
" brought home extremely alter'd, turn'd white, and was, as it
" was thought, expiring. The Root was immediately ſent for,
" and the Decoction made, and given him in great Quantity. He
" continued taking it for three or four Days, and on the Fifth went
" to work along with the reſt of the *Negroes*."

That the *Senſible Plant* is endow'd with the Property of reſiſting Poiſon, hath been, before this, taken Notice of. For the Honourable Sir *Hans Sloane*, the late worthy Preſident of this SOCIETY, whoſe Writings will always remain an Honour to his Country, hath obſerv'd from *Piſo*, that the *Root* of this Shrub is an Antidote againſt the *Shrub* itſelf, which is very poiſonous, and kills by Degrees, making the unhappy Sufferers Cachectical, Short-winded, and Me-

* *By Humours, the Author means* ſerous *or liquid Stools, and not* Pus *or ſuch Matter as is diſcharged by Ulcers.*

‖ *The* Herba Senſitiva *or* Senſible Weed, *as this Author calls it, is commonly called the Senſible Plant. The Species that is deſcribed here, is a native and common Plant in this Province.*

† *This Caution muſt be carefully obſerved.*

lancholy

lancholy, 'till they die. This greatly corroborates what our Author has advanced; and it is obſerveable, that he likewiſe directs all Parts of the Plant, except that Part of the Root which is in the Ground, *to be rejected, as bad and noxious:* Though whether this be exactly the ſame Plant with what our Author mentions, I dare not determine; as Sir *Hans Sloane* inquires, whether it be not the *Æſchynomene, ſeu Mimoſa arboreſcens Americana, &c. flore albo*; whereas Dr. *Burgeſs* expreſly ſays, that it *flowers yellow*: though this may, poſſibly, be a Miſtake in him.

I am ſenſible it may be objected, that the *Negro* Poiſon is of various Kinds; and that therefore, though this Remedy may be ſo extraordinary a Specific in ſome Caſes, it may be unavailable in others. That the *Negroes* may have the Knowledge of different Sorts of Poiſon, I deny not; but it would appear, from the Univerſality of the Effects of this Medicine, as the Doctor affirms *many have been wonderfully cured and preſerved by it*, and does not mention a ſingle Inſtance of its Miſcarriage, as though the *Negroes* in the *Weſt-Indies* uſed but *one* Kind of Poiſon, or, if different, yet ſuch as comes within the Power of this Remedy. Beſides, as we cannot be aſſured, but by the Conſequence, whether the Poiſon be of that Sort, as to be within the Reach of this Remedy, or not, I think there is all the Reaſon in the World it ſhould be adminiſter'd under any Suſpicion of the *Indian* Poiſon: Eſpecially, as the Doctor aſſures us of its great Innocence; and I believe every one will readily agree with me, that it is no ſmall Recommendation of a Medicine, *That let what will become of its good Effects it can do no Harm.*

Dioſcorides hath rightly obſerv'd in his *Alexipharmics, that very different Poiſons produce the ſame Effects upon Human Bodies; and that therefore they are, for the moſt part, curable by the ſame Remedies. For though the Kinds of Poiſons are various, yet the Effects which ariſe from them are common, and but few.* And that Ornament of his Profeſſion, the learned and beneficent Dr. *Mead*, who hath given us a more rational Account of the Nature and Properties of *Poiſons*, and taught us to reaſon with greater Certainty about ſuch abſtruſe Points, than any that ever came before him, is of Opinion, *that though there be a great Variety of internal Poiſons, as well Mineral as Vegetable, yet they do all of them ſeem to agree in their primary Effects, and manner of Operating.* Eſſ. III. And in another Place, *That virulent Plants, although they may be diſtinguiſh'd even from one another by particular Virtues, do however kill by a like Operation and Force.* From whence it ſeems reaſonable to infer, that although Poiſons may be various in themſelves, yet it is not impoſſible they may be cured by the ſame Remedy; as they produce like Effects, and ſeem to kill by a like manner of Operation. And a very remarkable Inſtance of this we have in all corroſive Poiſons, whether of the Mineral or Vegetable Kingdom, which, however different in themſelves, produce their Effects univerſally by erodeing the Coats of the *Stomach*, and the *Primæ Viæ*; and which are all curable in like manner, by ſheathing and blunting their acrimonious Particles, by means of ſmooth, lubricating and oleaginous Medicines.

But be this as it will, I think the Remedy deſerves, at leaſt, a fair and impartial Trial, as the Author has not indulged in any rhetorical Flouriſhes, or Theory, but ſeemingly confin'd himſelf to Truth, and plain matter of Fact. And, indeed, ſhould it be found to ſucceed but *One* time in *Twenty*, in ſuch deplorable Circumſtances, it cannot but be a Diſcovery of the greateſt Conſequence; eſpecially as we are ſufficiently aſſur'd beforehand, that all Cordial and Alexipharmic Medicines beſides, can be of no Service at all. And this may ſerve as another Argument, why, under any Probability of a Perſon's being injur'd by the *Indian* or *Negro* Poiſon, this Remedy ſhould be adminiſter'd; even though we cannot poſitively be aſſur'd, whether it be by this very Poiſon or not: For in Caſes where all other Remedies are likely, if not ſure, to prove unavailable, we may as well adviſe this as any.

I cannot affirm, I ever knew any Effects from this Remedy on my own Knowledge or Obſervation; having never reſided in thoſe Places where this Poiſon is frequent: But ſurely a Medicine which promiſes ſuch great things for the Good of Mankind, deſerves to have a fair and candid *Examination*; and ſhould it prove to be as ſerviceable as the Author aſſures us it is, you cannot but receive the higheſt Satisfaction, in being inſtrumental in divulging the Knowledge of a Remedy, from whence the Public may receive ſuch unſpeakable Benefit. And it would be doing the higheſt Service to their Fellow-Creatures, if ſuch as have a proper Opportunity in the *Weſt-Indies*, would adminiſter it, according to the Directions here given, and report an exact Account of its Succeſs.

One thing more I muſt beg leave to add, with regard to the Trial of this Medicine; that it would be neceſſary to obſerve, whether the ſame Root, dried, would be of equal, or any Efficacy; that if ſo the Benefits of it may be extended to other Climates wherein this Herb does not naturally grow: Particularly as the Author is convinced, that the ſame ſort of Poiſon is uſed both in *Spain* and *Italy*.

I ſhall do myſelf the Honour, ſome other Opportunity, of laying before you the Conjectures of Authors concerning this *Indian* or *Negro* Poiſon, with the Remarks I have made thereon; and if the preſent Paper proves acceptable, ſhall communicate to you the Doctor's other Obſervations concerning the *Bites of poiſonous Snakes, poiſonous Fiſh, Wounds*, and *the moſt remarkable Diſtempers in the* Weſt-Indies; which cannot but be of great Service to ſuch as reſide in thoſe Parts; eſpecially as he mentions chiefly ſuch Medicines as are *Natives* of the Country he treats of, and which are therefore the more eaſy to be procur'd. I am, Sir, (with the greateſt Eſteem)

Your, and the SOCIETY'S, *moſt Obedient, and very humble Servant,* Edward Milward.

CUSTOM-HOUSE CHARLES-TOWN, *Enter'd inwards.*

Brigt. Tobias, William French, from Providence.
Sloop Rebecca, Benjamin Flower, from Philadelphia.

Entered Outwards.

Brigt. Charles-Town, Birch Evans, for Barbados.
Sloop Abigail & Mary, Jac b Whitewood, and
Sloop Little Betſey, George Diamond, for Providence.
Sloop Charming Betty, William Blay, for Curracoa.
Sloop Elizabeth & Mary, Cornelius Hinſon, for Bermuda.

Clear'd for Departure.

Ship William, William Beeſe, for Newfoundland.
Snow Antwiſtle, John Smith, to London.
Schooner Mary, John Straehan, to Barbados.
Schooner Friendſhip, Andrew McCorkhall, to *St. Auguſtine.*
Schooner Enterprize, Iſaac Colcock, to Rattan.
Sloop Carolina, John Schermerhoorn, to New-York.
Sloop Tyger, William Duke, to Jamaica.
Sloop Friendſhip, William Savage, to Providence.

EXPORTED from this Place, ſince the firſt of November 1748.
Of the Growth and Manufacture of this Province.

Rice, 39,449 Barrels.	Turpentine, 1,188 Barrels.
Pitch, 3,114 Barrels.	Deer-Skins, 310 Hhds.
Tar, 2,240 Barrels.	Indico, 84,831 *lb.*

PRICE CURRENT at CHARLES-TOWN,
(Of the Country Growth and Manufacture.)

By the Barrel.	Tann'd Leather, 2*s.* 10 *d.* to 3*s.*
Beef, 6 *l.*	*By the Thouſand.*
Pork, 10 *l.*	Pipe Staves, 30 *l.*
Rice per Cent. 65 to 70*s.*	Hogſhead ditto, 20 *l.*
Pitch 60 to 65*s.*	Barrel ditto, white Oak, 8*l.*
Tar, 55*s.* to 60	Ditto, red Oak, 7 *l.*
Turpentine, 12*s.* 6	Bricks, 5 *l.*
Rozin, 8*s.*	Cypreſs Shingles, 3 *l.* 10
By the Pound.	*By the Buſhel.*
Indigo, 15, 17*s.* 6, & 20*s.*	Corn, 12*s.* 6
Deer-Skins, 12 to 15*s.*	Peaſe, 12*s.* 6

EXCHANGE at LONDON, 700 to 715 *per Cent.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO BE SOTD by *Gabriel Manigault*, exceeding good *Welch* plains, and ſtrip'd duffils.

NEGRO CLOTH lately imported, to be ſold very reaſonable, by *Samuel Eveleigh.*

RUN AWAY ſome time laſt week, from my plantation, two negro women, one named *Sarah*, and the other *Mary*, lately belonging to mrs. *Anne Waight* deceaſed; the former is a luſty black wench, with a very remarkable child of a brick colour, has white curl'd hair, and a twinkling in its eyes; the other a thin yellow wench: They are ſuppoſed both to be harbour'd about *Aſhley-Ferry*. Whoever apprehends and brings them to me at the ſaid plantation, or ſecures them in the work-houſe, ſhall have 10 *l.* reward, beſides lawful charges. *Sarah Fleming.*

SOUTH-CAROLINA. WHEREAS *Joseph Shute* of *Charles-Town*, in the said Province, Merchant, hath exhibited his Petition to the Chief Justice and any two Assistant Justices of his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas, setting forth, that he is in the Custody of the Provost-Marshal of this Province, by Virtue of several Capias's ad Satisfaciendum, and upon Mesne Process, at the Suits of *William Bissett* and others, *John Wilson*, *William Miles*, *Benjamin Mazyck*, *Thomas Lambell* and *Isaac Bradwell* Assignees of the Provost-Marshal, *William Donnem*, *Nickleson* & *Shubrick*, and *Elias Ball*, for Debts to them justly due, and that he is ready and willing to make Surrender, upon Oath, to one or more of his Creditors, in Trust for the Rest, all and singular his Estate, both real and personal, a List or Schedule thereof being annexed to his said Petition, and prays to be admitted to the Benefit of the Acts of the General Assembly in such Case made and provided. *It is therefore ORDERED*, and the said *William Bissett* and others, *John Wilson*, *William Miles*, *Benjamin Mazyck*, *Thomas Lambell*, *Isaac Bradwell*, *William Donnem*, *Nickleson* & *Shubrick*, *Elias Ball*, and all others to whom the said *Joseph Shute* is in any wise indebted, are hereby summoned, and have Notice to appear at the usual Place of Judicature in *Charles-Town*, at the Meeting of the Court of *Common Pleas* which shall happen next after *Thirty* Days from the Publication hereof, to shew Cause, if any they can, why the said *Joseph Shute* should not be entitled to the Benefit of the said Acts, upon his complying with the Terms therein prescribed. *July* 24th, 1749.

JAMES WEDDERBURN, *Cl.C.P.*

THIS 3d day of *July* 1749, was brought to me, by mr. *Jasper Dubois*, of the parish of St. *Thomas* and St. *Dennis*, a sorrel horse, gelded, about 3 years old, about 13 hands high, unbroke and without any brand, with 3 white hoofs, his hind legs white up to his houghs; a white reach from his forehead down to his lips. Whoever can prove a property to the said horse, may have him, paying the necessary charges, and applying to

James Akin.

TO BE SOLD, a Well-Boat, which was purposely built for Fishing, and answers the Design very well, having brought up Fish alive to the Bridge: She is in good Order and very fitted with Sails, *&c.* Any Person inclinable to purchase the same, may treat with — *Thomas Drayton.*

To be RAFFLED for,

ON the 1st *September* next (if the subscription be full) a corner lot of land, fronting two streets, in *Colleton's* square, consisting of 50 feet by 75, with a good new brick two story and half dwelling-house thereon with five rooms, a good brick kitchen with an oven in it, a large stable with other convenient out-houses. The whole valued at *l.* 1,600 will be divided into 128 chances, at 12:10 *l.* each. Subscriptions taken by *Elisha Poinsett* at his house in *Charles-Town*, where the raffle is to be, and a firm and indisputable title may be seen and confirmed, by *William Fisburn.*

To be RAFFLED for, on the 28th of *August* (if the subscription be full) a lot in *Union-street*, belonging to the estate of *Adam Beauchamp* deceased, with a house thereon two story high, three rooms on a floor, and two garret-rooms, a good kitchen and store, a shed that will hold 300 barrels of rice, a yard and garden. The whole (valued at 2,600 *l.*) will be divided into 130 chances, at 20 *l.* each. Subscriptions taken in by Messrs. *Glen* and *Cooper*, and by = *Isaac Beauchamp.*

WHEREAS a Mustee Fellow named *Jeffery*, belonging to *Lennox* & *Deas*, has absented himself from his said masters service for some weeks by past: whoever apprehends and delivers him to the warden of the work-house, shall receive 5 *l.* reward, besides all reasonable expences. And all persons whatever, are hereby forbid to entertain him, on pain of being prosecuted: He has a remarkable cut a cross his nose, and formerly belong'd to *George Chicken.* □

TO BE SOLD, a very handsome, strong and fashionable Coach. Enquire of SAMUEL PERRY, *Coach and Coach-Harness Maker, in* Charles-Town.

Who has also a strong and handsome Chariot, with fore and side Glasses, to sell.

THE several Persons indebted to Lieutenant *John Payne*, and whose bonds are in the hands of his attorneys (*Gabriel Manigault* and *Benjamin Savage*) are desired to prepare for the discharge of them by the first of *December* next; positive directions being lately received for calling in the said debts, and which not satisfied at that time will be put in Suit, by

Andrew Rutledge. □

WHEREAS *John Stronach*, upwards of 12 Years Armourer to the King's Magazine at *Frederica* in *Georgia*, is now removed into *Union-street* in this Town, all Gentlemen and others may have all sorts of Arms, *&c.* clean'd and mended by him in the best Manner, at a very reasonable Rate. □

THE SUBSCRIBERS, who are Removed into one of mr. *Thomas Elliott's* new tenements on the bay, next door to messrs *Lenox* & *Deas*, have lately *IMPORTED* in the *Fortrese*, capt. *Mackenzie*, and in the last vessels from *England*, a large assortment of cordage, sail cloth, *Dutch* and *English* twine & shoe thread, variety of cotton hollands and cotton gowns, cambricks, chints, spotted, flower'd and long lawns, muslins, white & brown hollands, china, best hyson, green and bohea tea, check'd linnen, garlix, pavilion gauze, diaper and damask table cloths, russia linnen and huckaback for towelling, hoes, nails, very neat sconce glasses in mahogony frames, pickles, florence and linseed oyl and white lead, new fashion'd copper coolers, floor and table carpets, umbrelloes, currans and raisins in jars, fine steel grates and brass fenders, gun powder, ——with variety of haberdashery, cutlery, and stationary wares, and several other kinds of goods proper for the season □ ROBERT PRINGLE, & Comp.

WHEREAS the Vestry-Men and church-wardens of the parish of *St. Bartholomew*, agreeable to an act of assembly in such case made, did on the 20th of *March* 1745, assess the said parish in the sum of *one shilling* and *six pence* on all slaves, and the same on every hundred acres of land to reimburse the church wardens their expences for the maintenance of the Poor of the said parish; which said assessment a great many of the non residents in the said parish have hitherto neglected to pay: These are therefore to desire the said defaulters to pay their said respective assessments to the subscribers (church-wardens of the said parish) on or before the first of *September* next, or executions will forthwith be issued against them for the same.

William Harden, Charles Sanders.

I am Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to give this public Notice, that the Church-Commissioners are desired to meet his Excellency in the Council Chamber, the *first Tuesday* in *August* next, in the Forenoon. *In the Council-Chamber, the 14th of July*, 1749. □ *James Bulloch*, C.C.

STRAY'D or stolen off *Charles-Town* green, some time in *June* last, a large white horse, about 14 hands high, and pretty slim, with a fistula mark a little above the mounting shoulder, but has no brand. Whoever brings him to me in *Charles-Town*, shall have 40 *sh.* reward, from

George Mathewes. □

RUN AWAY on the 3d Instant *July*, a tall slim negro man, aged about 45 years, named *Will*; a boy named *Ned*, tall and slim, about 18 years; and *Mary*, a girl about 15: It is supposed they are gone to the southward. Whoever takes up and delivers them to the warden of the work-house, or at my plantation on *Ashley-River*, shall have 20 *l.* reward for *Will*, and 5 *l.* for each of the others. □ *John Cattell*, Son of *William.*

STRAY'D from *Goose-Creek*, a black horse near 14 hands high, with a small star in his forehead, roman nose, and a few grey hairs in his tail, paces, is branded on the mounting shoulder AS, and likewise on some other part IS. Whoever brings him to *John Singleton* at *Goose-Creek*, shall have 3 *l.* reward, besides reasonable charges, □